

TESTIMONY

of the

CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

to the

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

March 7, 2011

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 90% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

CCM opposes Proposed Bill 5885 "An Act Concerning Potentially Politically Biased Legal Advice of Town Attorney's," which would require certain local officials to resign from their municipal position if they are also paid to provide legal services, either by contract or as the official town attorney, for the same municipality.

CCM is not aware of any statewide problem that would necessitate the State dictating local policy to towns and cities. Such decisions should be left to the governing body of a municipality to determine what best suits the needs of their community.

CCM urges the committee to *take no action* on this bill.

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If you have any questions, please contact Kachina Walsh-Weaver, Senior Legislative Associate of CCM via email kweaver@ccm-ct.org or via phone (203) 498-3026.